



The Saltire

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Oregon Hill
September & October 2016

"The mission
of St. Andrew's
is to welcome people
from far and near
to be together
as a family in Christ to share
the faithfulness of God."



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Colorful ribbons will mark prayer
requests in October.



Rally Sunday!

September 11 at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Our celebration of faith, family and food
when we renew our baptismal vows and
launch our program year.

For details see Calendar Highlights Page 11

New Residents Bring 'Experience, Energy, Perspective'



Katherine Gaines



Lauren Gustafson

by the Rev. Abbott Bailey

I am thrilled to introduce the 2016-17 residents of Grace-on-the-Hill, our fourth cohort since we started this ministry in 2012!

These five young adults come from all over Virginia and Maryland and bring a wealth of experience, energy and perspective. It has been a joy to begin to get to know them since they arrived on Aug. 16, and I know we are all looking forward to continuing to welcome them and support them through this formative year.

Katherine Gaines is from Charlottesville, VA, and graduated in May 2016 from James Madison University with a Bachelor's degree in social work.

For Katherine, faith and social work have always been connected

"I am ultimately seeking a career in the nonprofit sector or in public policy. These will require graduate school. I want to get experience working with the people I plan to serve before entering graduate school. Service to others through social work is my calling; of this I am absolutely sure."

**"Service to others through social work is my calling, of this I am absolutely sure."
Katherine Gaines**

Katherine is serving at Anna Julia Cooper School.

Lauren Gustafson is from Alexandria, VA, and is a 2016 graduate of the University of Mary Washington where she majored in English and minored in communication.

Upon joining Grace-on-the-Hill, Lauren said, "I was drawn to the Episcopal Service Corp because of the community the Episcopal church provides. Growing up in the church instilled a sense of pride and love for service. I love the opportunity to immerse myself in a new community and to work in a school. I hope to build bonds within Anna Julia Cooper



Celal Kamran



Erin Monaghan



Timothy Nixon

RESIDENTS

From Page 2

Episcopal School, St. Andrew's Church and the neighborhood of Oregon Hill. I'm excited this year to grow in my faith and my understanding of the world around me."

Lauren is serving at Anna Julia Cooper Episcopal School.

Celal Kamran was born and raised in Pakistan until he moved to Virginia with his family at the age of nine.

"I want to grow in faith and community in the Episcopal Service Corp."

Celal Kamran

"I want to grow in faith and community in the Episcopal Service Corps. To discern the

call to priesthood while living in community with young people who are also wanting to make a difference is why I wanted to do ESC."

Celal is serving at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Erin Nicole Monaghan is from Fallston, MD, and is a 2016 graduate of Messiah College, where she majored in Cross Cultural Christian Ministries and Communication.

A core aspect of Erin's spiritual identity is to work toward ending injustice and to partner with God in making that a reality. Her year as a resident will be a time of discernment for Erin.

"By participating in a year of service, I will have an incredible opportunity to practice living out a deep conviction with others who can help me discern how I

"...I will have an incredible opportunity to practice living out a deep conviction with others..."

Erin Monaghan

will continue to live this way even after my time with the program ends."

Erin is serving at the Diocese of Virginia in the offices of Outreach and Mission and Christian Formation.

Timothy Nixon, from Herndon, VA, is a 2016 graduate of William and Mary with majors in psychology and math.

His year as a GotH resident will be a time of intentionality.

"I see this year with Grace-on-the-Hill partly as a time in which I continue to be my own genuine self in yet another new environment. I also see it as a time to be intentional about the relationships I form and the work I do in order to meet some of the already identified needs, as well as positioning myself to possibly meet some underlying needs that have not already been identified."

Timothy, who plans to become an elementary school teacher, is excited to be serving at St. Andrew's School.

Catechesis Begins Its Fourth Year

by Belinda Harris, Catechist

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level I begins its fourth year on Rally Sunday at 10:50 a.m. in the atrium.

CGS is a Christian formation program for three to six-year-old children led by our catechist Belinda Harris. She has completed 180 hours of training to become certified in Level I and Level II.

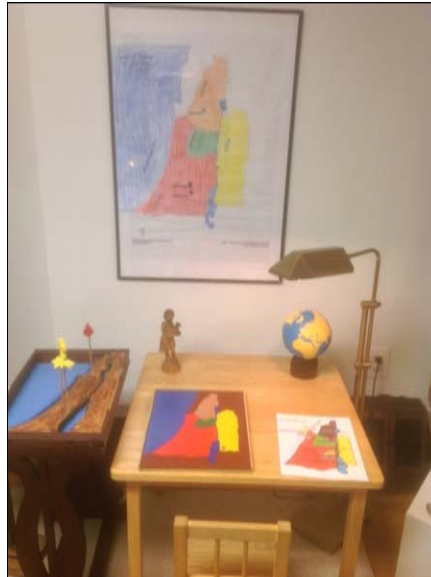
Belinda acts as a spiritual guide for the children as they come to know Jesus the Good Shepherd.

"Catechesis provides an environment where children can slow down and explore who Jesus is. Where did he live? Who were his parents? What parables did he tell his disciples? We wonder aloud together about the parables: 'How could this be? How could the tiny mustard seed become the great tree where birds nest?'"

Atrium assistants Elaine Baur, Chuck Baur and Laura Boucher also guide the children.

The children's experience in the atrium begins with time to gather and settle around the prayer table. There the catechist reads from the Bible. The readings come to life with the use of small wooden figures. Then the catechist demonstrates the use of relevant materials and how to return them to their proper places.

Next the children are invited to make individual choices of



LAND OF ISRAEL In the geography area of the atrium, the children explore the places where Jesus was born and baptized, where he fished, taught and shared meals with friends.

materials previously introduced. The children work with their chosen materials without adult help unless needed.

Possible activities for the child include flower arranging, polishing, caring for plants, folding, painting, tracing or drawing.

The atrium experience ends when Belinda or one of the atrium assistants lead the children upstairs where they rejoin their parents after the peace. Children may choose to carry forward the elements for the Eucharist.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Oregon Hill

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Staff

Rector

The Rev. Abbott Bailey
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Eddie Griffith

Nursery

Diane Williams

Vestry

Karen Salter '16, Senior Warden

John Ambrose '16, Junior
Warden

Anthony Creech '16, Register

Holly Harris '18

Renee Ferrucci '17

Vance Joyner '17

Erin Bell Kutsko '18

Kay McCall '17

Michael Williams '18

Steve Salter, Treasurer

FOR THE RECORD

Married Mallory Elizabeth Harris
& William Edwin Suitt July 24

Walk in Love: Sustaining Our Church and Ourselves

by Kay McCall, Vestry '17

A curiosity in our culture is that walking has become a rare activity. Many of us walk for fitness, but rarely for groceries. A fortunate few can walk to work. A handful of our parishioners walk to St. Andrew's on Sunday mornings, but most of us drive in. Some in our church are just learning to walk; some have lost the ability to walk. Some, miraculously, are learning to walk again.

When we walk, we do it with some deliberation. The brain must engage spatial awareness skills, attain balance and convince muscles to work in concert to achieve forward motion. Science is proving that a steady practice of walking sustains both body and mind.

Given a particular context, we may become aware of the responsibility of walking – where and when we walk may have implications for safety or it may be a statement about our carbon footprint. Where and when we walk shows our priorities – walking for a cause, walking to vote, walking to receive Holy Communion.

There's a lot of walking going on in the Bible from Noah, who walked with God, to the friends walking toward Emmaus. Micah says to "do justice, and to love



kindness and to walk humbly with your God" (Mic. 6:8). And of course, there's Psalm 23.

But what does it mean to "walk in love?" The Ephesians verse offers Christ as the pattern, but the phrase bears examination as we use it so often as an Offertory Sentence. Do we really bring our financial offerings to God deliberately? With a view to truly sustain ourselves and our church? With responsibility, priority and love?

At St. Andrew's it is time to think about our financial offerings in an even more deliberate way, specifically with an eye to sustainability. How can we retire our deficit and create income that assures the responsibility we have — this amazing church community that

acts as God's hands and continues to be grace in the city? This is our challenge in the next three years, and we can do it with joy, walking in love for the energy, creativity and deep peace this place offers.

Bishop Shannon has invited us to consider this verse in Ephesians carefully in our stewardship formation work. On Oct. 9 we will officially kick off our pledge campaign, and in the Adult Forum, I hope you will join us in a beginning exploration with the spiritual practice of walking, using Barbara Brown Taylor's book *An Altar In The World*. (See more on Page 9 about this wonderful book and Forum series.)

Walking is good exercise. It clears the mind and helps the body. And what a joy – we have so many assurances throughout scripture that God is with us. "I will walk among you, and will be your God and you shall be my

The graphic you see here was developed by lay delegates and clergy at the 2016 Diocesan Convention. People were asked for verbs that describe how we "walk in love" in Virginia. These verbs, sitting on top of the Holy Communion wafer, represent how we are fed through Christ to do God's work. More information is available in the 2016 Spring Issue of "The Virginia Episcopal Magazine" Page 8.

‘Vibrant Ministry’ at St. Andrew’s Attracts Seminarian

by the Rev. Abbott Bailey

I am pleased to announce that St. Andrew’s will continue to share its gift and ministry of supporting and forming people for ordained ministry in the Episcopal Church when we welcome Kristen Wickersham as our seminarian intern this fall.

Kristen is a Postulant for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Virginia and a second-year seminarian at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond. She

will join us officially in November, but she will be worshipping with us regularly starting in September.

Before starting seminary, Kristen served as the interim Director of Youth Ministries at St. James’ Richmond, which is her home parish. Kristen has worked for the Environmental Protection Agency and held numerous leadership positions at Richmond Montessori School and St. Catherine’s School. She has a degree in chemistry from Goucher College. Kristen is married to Mark Wickersham, and they have two children,

Jocelyn (20) and Diana (16).

I have known Kristen since she served on the vestry and was a part of the Mom’s Bible Study at St. Stephen’s where I served as associate before coming to St. Andrew’s. I am truly thrilled to be working with her again and to be part of her priestly formation.

Kristen looks forward to serving as a seminarian at St. Andrew’s.

“I am honored and excited to serve Christ at St. Andrew’s,” Kristen said. “I originally looked at St. Andrew’s for my field education because it is a small, urban church with a vibrant ministry. It also has an exceptional history of lifting up and forming priests. What encouraged me the most in my choice, however, was my experience of worshipping here several weeks ago. I spent Sundays of my



Kristen Wickersham

first year in seminary visiting many different

**“I was
searching
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spiritual
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*Kristen
Wickersham*

churches in the Diocese of Virginia. The greeting I received at St. Andrew’s was especially warm and memorable. So many of you came up to me before, during and after the service to personally welcome me! I enjoyed the traditional liturgy, the beautiful worship space, and the wonderful music. I was searching for a parish where I would have opportunities to serve and make a difference to the life of the community, but also a place that could be my spiritual home. I believe I have

found just such a place at St. Andrew’s, and I’m looking forward to being with you.”



Fall Adult Forum

September 18 and 25

“Beating the Bounds and the Missional Church”

Abbott will guide young and old members of the community in exploring what the ancient custom of walking the boundaries of the parish has to do with joining God's work right outside our doors. All are welcome!

Forum pauses October 2 for the St. Francis Celebration

“An Altar in the World”

How do we make faith central to our lives rather than peripheral or episodic? Priest and author Barbara Brown Taylor suggests ways to “encounter God beyond the walls of any church.” Her book explores spiritual practices in a new light.

October 9

The Practice of Walking on the Earth: Groundedness
with Kay McCall

October 16

The Practice of Pronouncing Blessings: Benediction
with Denise Bennett

October 23

The Practice of Feeling Pain: Breakthrough
with Tim Williams

October 30

The Practice of Saying No: Sabbath
With John Ambrose

Forum pauses November 6 for All Saints Celebration

November 13

The Practice of Living with Purpose: Vocation
with Annie Campbell

November 20

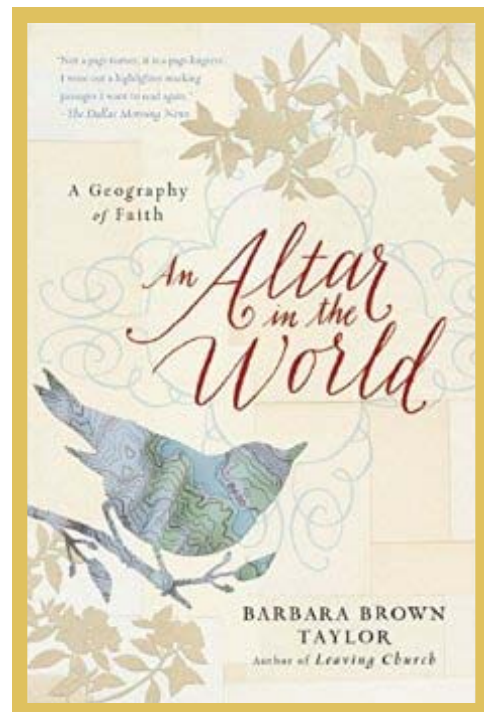
The Practice of Wearing Skin: Incarnation

with Laura Roucher

You need not read the book to participate fully in this series. However, if you would like to read along, copies are available for \$10. Call 648-7980 or email

office@standrewsoregonhill.org.

*Forum is held in the Parish House on Sunday mornings from 10:00 to 10:50
with coffee and good conversation. Please join us!*



Pokémon Go Event



PURSUIT BEGINS Katrina Comissiong-Williams and Abbott Bailey



PLAY! Mikey Comissiong-Williams and Sam Getlein



SMARTPHONE GAME CAPTIVATES Milo Comissiong-Williams and Celal Kamran



Residents Get to Know the City, the River, Us!



BACKDROP OF OUR CITY Celal Kamran, Erin Monaghan, Lauren Gustafson, Katherine Gaines and Tim Nixon.



ON THE BANKS OF THE JAMES Celal Kamran, Erin Monaghan, Katherine Gaines, Tim Nixon and Paris Ball, Diocesan Director of Christian Formation and Camps.



SHARING OUR CHURCH HISTORY Russell Rowe, Audrey Rowe and Cyrus Field

Paddle and Potluck on the James



SUNSET AND SMILES Renee' Ferrucci, Vestry '17

Calendar Highlights

**Parish Office
Closed**
Mondays

Vestry Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 21
& Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m.
St. Andrew's House

**Soup Kitchen
Ministry**
2nd & 4th Saturdays
Sept. 10 & 24;
Oct. 8 & 22
from 8-10:30 a.m.
at St. Mark's
Episcopal Church
Contact Karen Wittich
for info kwittich@jtcc.edu
233-4215

Morning Prayer
Thursdays at 8:30 a.m.
in the Chapel

Sunday Worship
Holy Eucharist
at 8:30 & 11 a.m.
Coffee Hour in
St. Andrew's House
follows 11 a.m. worship

Mark Your Calendars

St. Andrew's Fall Parish Clean-Up Saturday, October 22

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer in the Chapel
9 a.m. to Noon – Clean Up Activities
Outside: Raking, Weeding, Trimming, Mulching
Inside: Dusting, Polishing, General Cleaning
Noon – Noonday Prayer in the Chapel
12:30 p.m. – Soup & Salad Lunch





Calendar Highlights

Rally Sunday

Sunday, Sept. 11
Holy Eucharist at 8:30 a.m.
Catechesis
of the Good Shepherd
at 10:50 a.m.
in the Atrium
Worship at 11 a.m.
Fellowship Meal
follows worship service
in Baldwin Hall

Parish Cleanup

Saturday, Oct. 22
8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Begins
with morning prayer
Concludes
with lunch
see ad on Page 10

Fall Playdates for Families with Children

Saturday, Sept. 24
at 11 a.m.
at Lewis Ginter
Botanical Gardens
The October Playdate
is scheduled
for Saturday, Oct. 29

Changes to Chapel Facilitate Multiple Uses

by John Ambrose '16, Junior Warden

Some exciting physical changes will be coming to St. Andrew's Chapel in the coming months that will enable us to engage more fully with the community and encourage new uses for our historic space.

You may have noticed that we have been using the chapel for a variety of things in the past several months: from the leave-taking reception for Patrick Keyser on Aug. 14 to a brief drum showcase by vestry member Holly Harris and Hannah Roberts, one of the 2015-16 Grace-on-the-Hill interns.

Inspired by ideas expressed by participants in the 2015 Dreaming with God focus-group sessions and the congregational assessment surveys done in February as part of our strategic planning process, the vestry submitted a grant proposal to the Diocese of Virginia's Small Church Revitalization Endowment. The proposal included a project to refurbish the chapel to make it serve multiple functions in addition to its continued use for the Sunday 8:30 a.m. Eucharist. The grant proposal was accepted, and a matching legacy donation from a family in the congregation allowed us to proceed with plans for enhancing the space. A design team was formed to oversee the project: Abbott Bailey, Howard Wells, Patrick Getlein and John Ambrose.

By the middle of November, new carpeting will be installed,

and 15 new chapel chairs will be purchased to replace many of the existing pews, which will be stored in the undercroft. The new individual chapel chairs, which are easier to move, can be arranged around the altar for the intimate worship that traditionally occurs in the chapel or used for small group meetings or retreats. When the chapel is used for receptions, the new chairs can be easily placed on the perimeter for comfortable seating, while the center is used for food and beverage tables.

Early next year, we will use the grant funds to repair the damaged plaster and repaint the chapel. (We are waiting till then because the contractor offered us a 30 percent discount if we scheduled the work during the company's "slow" season.) We will also open up the space by removing the old altar platform and rails and the bulky, unused radiators. If we wish to use the space for sit-down dinners, we will have room to set up tables and chairs to accommodate approximately 75 people.

When this project is completed, the chapel will have a sparkling new look that will make it even more welcoming for a broad range of uses including community meetings, workshops and retreats. We hope to use it creatively for everything from art shows and small concerts to movies, poetry readings and maybe even neighborhood coffee house.

The possibilities are as endless as our imaginations.

Community Places Ribbons on Fence to Offer Prayers

by the Rev. Deacon Barbara Ambrose

The Healing and Intercessory Prayer Ministry will transform our fence into a gathering place for prayer requests in October.

Beginning Sunday, Oct. 2, colorful ribbons will be available for parishioners and passersby to place on the fence as an offering of prayer.

The color of each ribbon will signify different types of petitions

including prayers for thanksgiving, our world, creation, healing, forgiveness, peace, ourselves and others.

Pens will be available so people can write a word or phrase regarding their request, and each week during Prayers of the People, members of the congregation will offer up the petitions of newly placed ribbons.

All ribbons will be gathered and presented during the

offertory at our 11 a.m. service on Oct. 30.

We will include information about this service on the fence inviting all who have added prayers to join us for this ingathering and healing prayer.

Also, starting in October, our prayer ministers will host a time for quiet prayer and healing each month in our chapel, so look for information about day and time soon.

WALK IN LOVE